



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

12 January 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: January 9, 2006

Conditions Report

Harmful algal blooms have been identified in northern Sarasota and Monroe Counties. In northern Sarasota County, very low impacts are possible tomorrow, no impacts are expected today and Saturday through Monday. Very low impacts are possible Friday in the oceanside Lower Keys. Low impacts are possible Saturday in the gulfside Lower Keys. No other impacts are expected for the Lower Keys. Water discoloration is possible.

Analysis

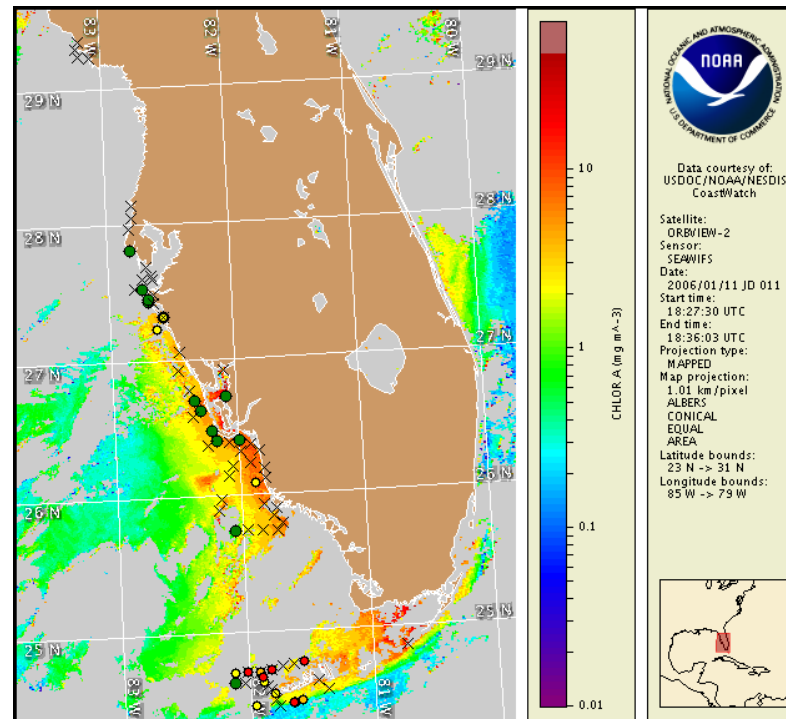
The bloom is weakening in southwest Florida. Samples taken this week in Levy, Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Collier Counties all had background levels or no presence of *Karenia brevis* (FWRI, Collier County). Although recent imagery has been partially obscured by clouds, imagery indicates that chlorophyll concentrations alongshore south of Charlotte Harbor to Cape Romano have increased to approximately $9 \mu\text{g/L}$. Imagery from 1/11 shows a high chlorophyll feature offshore of Collier County with a chlorophyll concentration $>10 \mu\text{g/L}$ at 26.10°N 82.25°W . Due to highly variable winds, little movement is likely through Monday. Continued bloom dissipation is likely as well.

Recent Imagery of the Keys has been obscured by clouds. No sampling data from this week is available for the Keys. Sampling is recommended. Net westward movement of the bloom is possible through Monday.

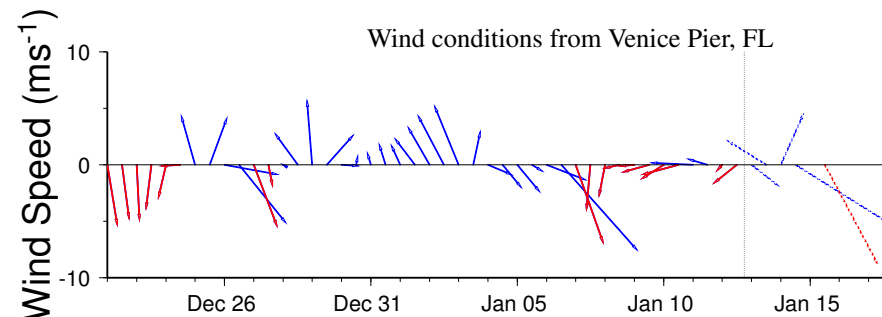
Bronder, Fenstermacher

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



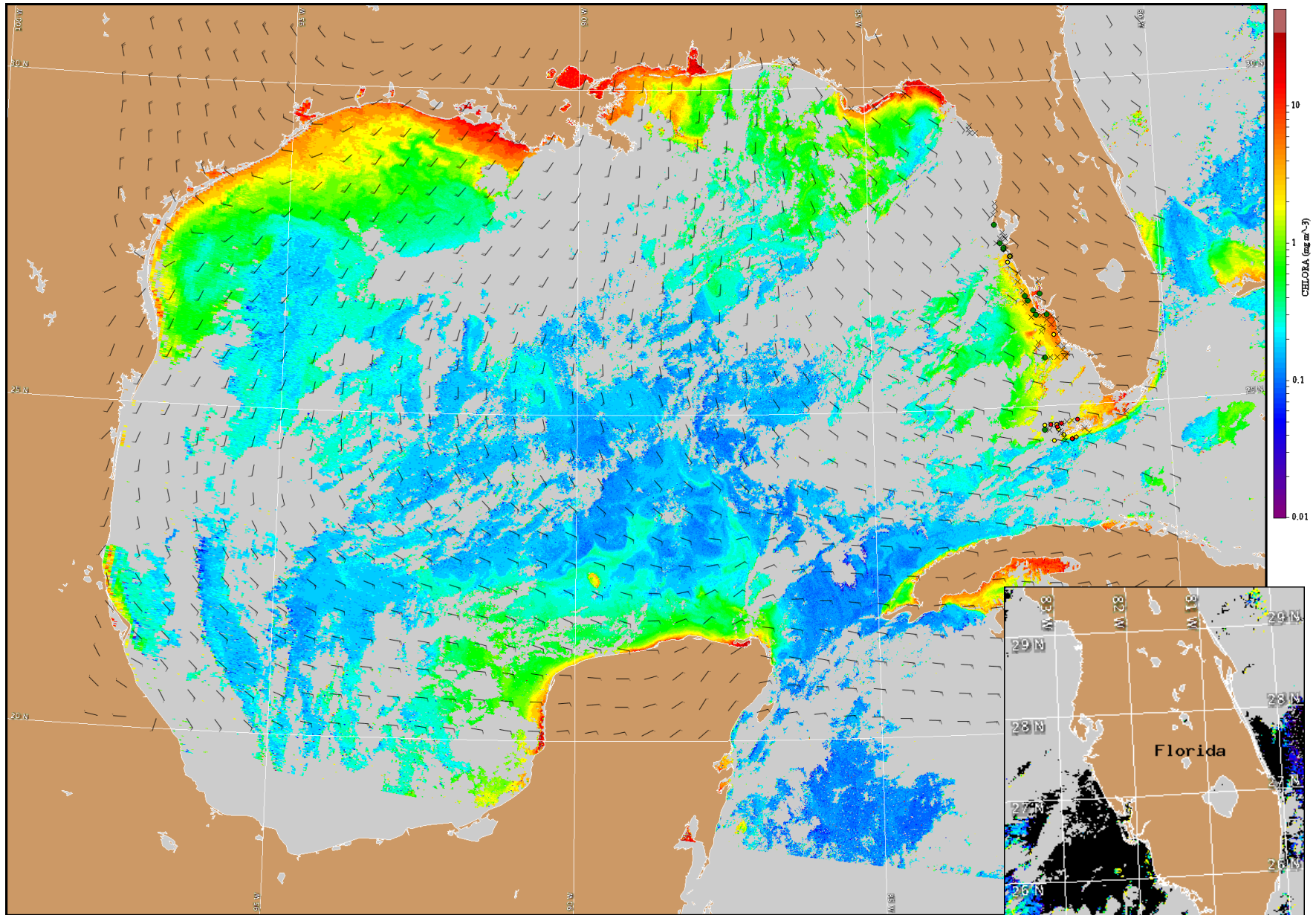
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 2-6 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Winds will be northeast (5 kts, 3 m/s) today, southeast becoming southwest (10 kts, 5 m/s) tomorrow, strengthening and becoming northwest (25 kts, 13 m/s) tomorrow night, north (20 kts, 10 m/s) Saturday, northeast (15 kts, 8 m/s) Sunday, southeast (15 kts, 8 m/s) Monday.

Keys: Winds will be northeast to east (15 kts, 8 m/s) today, east becoming south (10 kts, 5 m/s) tomorrow, northwest to north (20 kts, 10 m/s) Saturday, east (15 kts, 8 m/s) Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for January 13, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from January 2- 6 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).